

City of Rockville Environment Commission

Watersheds Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday June 26, 2012

Blue Crab, Rockville City Hall

7:15 pm

Meeting Attendance: Julie Palakovich, Steve Cardon, Joe Arrowsmith, Shannon Philbin.

1. Environment Commission Report

- Julie Palakovich and Steve Cardon reported that the Environment Commission:
 - Chapter 5 was adopted by the Mayor and Council
 - Hometown Holidays/YERT showing
 - The solar powered rain barrel was a great eye catcher for the booth, but the location was not ideal. The band was very loud and they were separated from other volunteer organizations.
 - The YERT showing and Q&A with the producer went very well.
 - The Environment Commission is interested in expanding to possibly doing a film festival for next year's HTH and partnering with the theatre.
 - Shannon will take care of responding to the volunteer and program inquiries from HTH.
 - Chris stepped down as a Chair of the Environment Commission. No decision was reached on the new Commission members.

2. Environmental Management Division Report

- Shannon Philbin reported:
 - Rockville has joined the TapIt Program that encourages local businesses to sign up to provide free drinking water to anyone that brings in a reusable drinking vessel.
 - The Rock Creek Watershed Assessment should be available for review by the Watershed Committee and Environment Commission in August or September. More updates to come.
 - Two streams, WB-4 and CJ-10 were adopted this past month.
 - Shannon Philbin, Heather Gewandter and Shannon Philbin will be presenting at the Stormwater Symposium on stormwater projects within the City.

3. Recap of Montgomery County RainScapes Tour

- No one present attended the RainScapes Tour. The group decided to postpone

the discussion until someone who attended could provide more details on the success of the event.

4. Discussion and Approval of Stream Cleanup Action Plan

- The action plan was approved by the committee and will be presented at the July Environment Commission meeting.
- It was discussed how the stream cleanup action plan will be put to use. It was agreed that other stream adoption groups would find the plan helpful for their own events.
 - Shannon will post a generalized version of the action plan onto the EMD website.
 - Julie will share the plan with the Maryland Multi-city Environment Commission.

5. Discussion of Luna Leopold Research Project

- Shannon proposed the idea of the Watershed Committee taking the lead on researching Luna Leopold's research in Rockville and developing outreach tools, such as signage, to be placed somewhere in Rockville. The project is fairly open ended at this point.
- Joe Arrowsmith expressed interest in helping with the project and commented that he could obtain Leopold research papers, but that the City would likely have more valuable information and should be lead on the project.
- Shannon will get details on the project so it can be discussed at the next WC meeting.

6. Discussion of leadership of the Watersheds Committee

- Julie Palakovich Carr announced that she is stepped down as Chair of the Watershed Committee.
- Joe Arrowsmith was nominated and seconded as the Chair of the Watershed Committee and accepted the position.

7. Other business

- Steve Cardon reported that Ann English would like it to be noted that a homeowner in Rockville requested approval to cut down four large walnut trees on their property. The City's Historic District Commission found no historical significance to the trees and the homeowners were given permission remove them.

8. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

The next Watersheds Committee meeting is scheduled for
Tuesday, July 17, 2012 at 7:15 pm
in the Blue Crab conference room at Rockville City Hall
111 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, Maryland, 20850.